ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical sheet constituted by a retardation film; and a transparent layer provided on one of opposite surfaces of the retardation film. The retardation film exhibits $N_z = (n_x - n_z)/(n_x - n_y)$ in a range of from 0.6 to 0.9 and $(n_x - n_y)d$ in a range of from 200 to 350 nm in which $\underline{d}$ is a thickness of the retardation film, n_z is a refractive index in a direction of a Z axis expressing a direction of the thickness $\underline{d}$ of the retardation film, n_x is a refractive index in a direction of an X axis expressing a direction of the retardation film in a plane perpendicular to the Z axis while the X axis also expresses a direction of the highest in-plane refractive index, and n_y is a refractive index in a direction of a Y axis expressing a direction of the retardation film perpendicular both to the Z axis and to the X axis. The transparent layer has a thickness not larger than 10 μm and exhibits refractive index anisotropy of $n_x \fallingdotseq n_y > n_z$.

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